justified if it yields a return of not less than 14 per cent under Discounted Cash Flow Method.

(d) State-wise route Kms of Railway lines at the end of 2003-04 is given in Railways Year Book 2003-04.

Use of Kulhars

1975. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kulhars (earthen-pots) are used to serve tea in all the trains;

(b) if so, the details about the expenditure on Kulhars (earthen-pots) incurred by Government; and

(c) whether plastic cups/things have already been banned by Government in the trains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The requirement of Kulhars per day is need based and the collection of this data is dynamic and voluminous. Hence, the total requirement of Kulhar per day and the total amount spent thereon can not be ascertained exactly. However, the approximate expenditure incurred on Kulhars from June to November, 2004 is Rs. 68,33,810/-.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Outsourcing by ICF

1976. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether outsourcing of parts to private companies have made ICF workers and machinery unutilised or idle;

(b) whether there is any plan to fully utilise the existing work force and machinery; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Passenger Fare Goods Freight Regulatory Authority

†1977. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:
PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are going to set up any Passenger Fare Goods Freight Regulatory Authority;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for setting up such a Regulatory Authority; and

(d) the main objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (b) The Government decided to set up Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority to fix Rail tariffs. However, Ministry of Railways is of the view that Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority is not required and has approached the Cabinet for reconsideration of its decision.

Railway line from Kalka to Darlaghat

1978. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in laying/investigation of the Railway Line from Kalka to Darlaghat in Himachal Pradesh as provided in Railway Budget 2004-05; and

(b) the total amount provided for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A survey for construction of new rail line between Parwanoo and Darlaghat has been included in the Budget 2004-05. The survey is in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.